



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

October 30, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael Flanagan, Chairman

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for 2006 – 2007 State School Aid Act, Section 31c,
Support for Children of Incarcerated Parents Pilot Program Grant

The Michigan Legislature in the 2006 State School Aid Act, Section 31c, appropriated \$1,875,000 for grants to local school districts to provide age-appropriate services for pupils whose parent or parents are incarcerated.

The purpose of the grant program is to provide video and audio conferencing opportunities between a student and his or her incarcerated parent(s), or legal guardian(s). The grant program also provides academic and social support by qualified individuals to these identified students. Programs and services must be coordinated with existing systems, initiatives, and programs that are currently providing support for these students and families.

Competitive grants of \$75,000 each are available to eligible districts. One competitive grant of \$150,000 is available to a district of the first class as defined under the Revised School Code.

Local school districts who have: 1) pupils with incarcerated parent(s) or guardian(s); and 2) at least 60% of the pupils enrolled and in regular daily attendance that met the eligibility criteria for free and reduced meals in the immediately preceding school year, as reported to the Department by October 31, 2005 and adjusted no later than December 31, 2005 are eligible to apply.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the 2006-2007 State School Aid Act, Section 31c, Support for Children of Incarcerated Parents Pilot Program Grants as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum, dated October 30, 2006.

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MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Criteria for the 2006-2007 State School Aid Act, Section 31c, Support for Children of
Incarcerated Parents Pilot Program Grant**

The State Board of Education has adopted as its Strategic Goal "Attain substantial and meaningful improvement in academic achievement for all students/children with primary emphasis on high priority schools and students." In addition, the State Board has adopted the following five Strategic Initiatives to implement the goal:

Ensuring Excellent Educators
Elevating Educational Leadership
Embracing the Information Age

Ensuring Early Childhood Literacy
Integrating Communities and Schools

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will include priority consideration of the Strategic Goal and the Strategic Initiatives.

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT

☒ Competitive ☐ Formula ☒ New ☐ Continuation *(check all that apply)*

The Michigan Legislature has appropriated \$1,875,000 for services to fund pilot programs designed to address the needs of pupils whose parent(s) or guardian(s) is (are) incarcerated. Minimally, a district awarded funding must, but is not limited to, provide video or audio conferencing opportunities or both, between a district pupil and his or her incarcerated parent(s) or guardian(s) and provide academic or social support by qualified persons to pupils whose parent(s) or guardian(s) is (are) incarcerated.

Twenty-three competitive grants of \$75,000 each and one competitive grant of \$150,000 for a school district of the first class will be made available to eligible districts for services to support pupils whose parent(s) or guardian(s) is (are) incarcerated. The Michigan Department of Corrections will provide technical guidance and assistance to grantees. The Michigan Department of Education will be responsible for the administration of this grant program.

LEGISLATION

The 2006 State School Aid Act, Section 31c appropriates \$1,875,000 for grants for services to support pupils whose parent(s) is (are) incarcerated.

RATIONALE FOR CRITERIA

This grant program supports the State Board of Education Strategic Initiative of Integrating Communities. In addition, the State Board and the Department of Education have identified four objectives to help meet the adopted Strategic Goal and five-year Strategic Plan. This grant program supports objective two: to identify and support practices, systems, and programs that sustain the social, mental, physical, and emotional growth of all students.

CRITERIA

☒ Defined In Legislation ☐ Defined in Department's Grant ☐ Proposed by Staff

The grants awarded will be pilot grants. Successful applicants will:

- Identify and select youth and families to participate

Provide video conferencing or audio conferencing opportunities, or both, between a district pupil and his or her incarcerated parent(s) or guardian(s) on a regular basis.

Provide academic (e.g. tutoring, after-school programming) or social support (e.g. mentoring, mental health services) by qualified persons to pupils whose parent(s) or guardian(s) is (are) incarcerated.

Coordinate project efforts with local Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) and Michigan Department of Human Services (MDHS) agencies to ensure effective service delivery.

Coordinate project efforts through a Coordinated School Health Team (CSHT), or another local multi-disciplinary team.

Indicate how they will use general or other funds to sustain project efforts and describe any other funding sources that would support the pilot programming.

Indicate how they will collaborate with the MDOC Michigan Prisoner Re-entry Initiative (MPRI) related to the local MPRI Steering Teams and their Prison In-Reach coordination in order to augment participation in family reunification sessions.

Evaluate the pilot project and report the results to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) at the end of the grant period.

Identify and describe any existing programs that involve children of incarcerated parents and how this grant award would be coordinated with their current efforts.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT

Local school districts who have: 1) pupils with incarcerated parent(s) or guardian(s); and 2) at least 60% of the pupils enrolled and in regular daily attendance that met the eligibility criteria for free and reduced meals in the immediately preceding school year, as reported to the Department by October 31, 2005 and adjusted no later than December 31, 2005.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

\$150,000 is available for a district of the first class and \$1,725,000 is available for grants of \$75,000 each to all other eligible school districts, for a total of \$1,875,000.

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT

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